

**RUBINA RAJA: CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**PROFESSOR OF CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND ART**

Institutional personal website: <https://pure.au.dk/portal/da/rubina.raja@cas.au.dk>  
Researcher unique identifier(s): [orcid.org/0000-0002-1387-874X](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1387-874X)

**CURRENT POSITION**

2015-2025- **Professor of Classical Archaeology and Art (chair)**, Aarhus University, Denmark.  
**PI**, Locally Crafted Empires  
Semper Ardens Advanced Project (Carlsberg Foundation)  
2025- **PI**, Lost Cities Project (The Gerda Henkel Foundation)

**UNIVERSITY EDUCATION**

2005 **DPhil in Classical Archaeology**, University of Oxford, UK.  
2000 **MSt in Classical Archaeology**, University of Oxford, UK.  
1997-1998 **Corsi singoli in Classical Archaeology**, Università di Roma, La Sapienza, Italy.  
1999 **BA in Classical Archaeology**, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

**PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

2015-2025 **Centre Director**, The Danish National Research Foundation's Centre of Excellence for Urban Network Evolutions, Aarhus University, Denmark.  
2012-2015 **Professor of Classical Archaeology and Art (MSO)**, Aarhus University, Denmark.  
2009-2012 **Associate Professor of Classical Archaeology and Art**, Aarhus University, Denmark.  
2007-2009 **Postdoctoral fellow, Classical Archaeology**, Aarhus University, Denmark.  
2005-2007 **Postdoctoral fellow**, Institut für Klassische Archäologie, Universität Hamburg, Germany.

**MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP DEGREES AND COURSES**

2024-ongoing **Certificate of Advanced Studies in International Cultural Heritage Law and Provenance Studies**  
Faculty of Law and Art-Law Centre, Université de Genève, Switzerland.  
2024 **Master of Public Governance**  
Copenhagen Business School, Denmark  
2024 **Board membership and governance in industrial and private foundations**  
Copenhagen Business School, Denmark.  
2022 **Women's Leader Programme**  
INSEAD, Fontainebleau, Cedex, Paris, France.  
2015 **Executive Research Management Course**  
Copenhagen Business School, Denmark.  
2010 **Diploma of Management**  
Forvaltningshøjskolen, Copenhagen/VIA University College, Aarhus, Denmark.

**RESEARCH AWARDS**

2024 *Carlsbergfondets Forskningspris (The Carlsberg Foundation's Research Prize)*  
The Carlsberg Foundation, Copenhagen, Denmark.  
2022 *Friedrich Wilhelm-Bessel Forschungspreis*  
Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung, Germany.

- 2021 *Hendes Majestæt Dronning Margrethe II's Romerske Pris*  
The Danish Academy in Rome, Italy.
- 2019 *Dansk Magister Forenings Forskningspris*  
The Danish Association of Masters and PhDs, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2015 *Tagea Brandts award for female researchers*  
The board of the Tagea Brandt Foundation, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2015 *EliteForsk Prisen (Elite Research Prize)*  
The Ministry for Higher Education and Science, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2014 *Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Sølvmedalje*  
The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, Copenhagen, Denmark.

### **SELECTED MAJOR RESEARCH GRANTS**

- 2025 *Locally Crafted Empires. Intersecting identities under Imperial rule in Western Asia as expressed in local portrait cultures (1st c. BCE-5th c. CE)* (Carlsberg Foundation)
- 2025 *Lost Cities Rediscovered. Reexamining Excavation Histories in Late Ottoman and Mandate Western Asia* (Gerda Henkel Stiftung)
- 2024 *The Aarhus-Yale Digital Archive Platform for the Danish Inter-World War Archaeological Engagement in the Middle East* (Carlsberg Foundation).
- 2020 *Circular Economy and Urban Sustainability in Antiquity*  
(Augustinus and Carlsberg Foundations).
- 2020 *Archive Archaeology: Preserving and Sharing Palmyra's Cultural Heritage through Harald Ingholt's Digital Archives* (ALIPH Foundation).
- 2019 *The Danish-Italian Excavation of the Forum of Julius Caesar in Rome*  
(Aarhus University Research Foundation Flagship Grant).
- 2015 *Centre of Excellence Centre for Urban Network Evolutions*, Aarhus University, Denmark  
(The Danish National Research Foundation).
- 2015 *Ceramics in Context* (Carlsberg Foundation).
- 2012 *Palmyra Portrait Project* (Carlsberg Foundation).
- 2011 *The Danish-German Jerash Northwest Quarter Project*  
(H. P. Hjerl Hansens Mindefond for Dansk Palæstinaforskning and EliteForsk)
- 2007 Postdoc grant (The Novo Nordisk Foundation).

### **DIRECTORSHIPS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK PROJECTS**

- 2023-2025 *Khirbet al-Khalde Survey and Excavation Project, Jordan*  
(with C. Harvey, Alberta University, Canada and E. Intagliata, Milan University, Italy).
- 2017-2023 *The Danish-Italian Excavations on Caesar's Forum in Rome*  
(with The Danish Academy in Rome and the Soprintendenza Capitolina, Rome, Italy).
- 2011-2021 *The Danish-German Jerash Northwest Quarter Project, Jordan*  
(with A. Lichtenberger, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany).

### **SELECTED COMMISSIONS OF TRUST AND BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

- 2026- *Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (panel member)*, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2024- *Elisabeth Munksgaard Fonden*, The National Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen.
- 2020- *Doctorate School*, Scuola Superiore Meridionale di Napoli, Italy.
- 2019-2025 *Advisory board*, Cluster of Excellence ROOTS, Kiel University, Germany.
- 2018- *The Nyhavn Foundation*, The National Bank of Denmark, Copenhagen.

- 2017-2022 *Advisory board*, Institute for Advanced Studies, University of Lyon, France.  
2015- *Museum of Ancient Art*, Aarhus University, Denmark.  
2015- *DIALPAST*, the Nordic Graduate School in Archaeology.

### **SELECTED NAMED LECTURES AND KEYNOTES**

- 2025: *The Mario and Antoinette Romano Lecture*, Binghamton University, USA.  
2024: *The Thomas Spencer Jerome Lectures*, University of Michigan, USA/AAR, Rome, Italy.  
2024: *Keynote lecture*, Academia Europaea Annual conference, Wroclaw, Poland.  
2023: *Keynote lecture*, American Schools of Oriental Research, Annual Conference, Chicago, USA.  
2023: *The Pritchett Lecture*, University of Berkeley, California, USA.  
2023: *Rumble Fund Memorial Lecture*, King's College London, University of London, UK.  
2021: *Rome Prize lecture*, Dronning Margrethes Romerske Pris, The Danish Academy in Rome, Italy.  
2021: *Keynote lecture*, Nordic Women's and Gender History conference, Aarhus University, Denmark.  
2018: *Kershaw Lecturer*, Archaeological Institute of America, USA.  
2015: *Distinguished Lecturer in the Human Sciences*, Max Planck Society, Berlin/Munich, Germany.  
2014: *Prize lecture*, The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, Copenhagen, Denmark.  
2013: *Winkelmann lecture*, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany.

### **SELECTED VISITING FELLOWSHIPS/PROFESSORSHIPS**

- Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin*, Berlin (fellow, September 2026-July 2027).  
*Max-Weber-Kolleg*, University of Erfurt, Germany (Mercator fellow, January 2024)  
*All Souls College*, University of Oxford, UK (visiting fellow, Hilary/Trinity Terms 2023).  
*Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies*, USA (Hetty Goldman member, January-June 2019).  
*The J. P. Getty Museum*, Malibu, USA (villa scholar, June-September 2018).  
*Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne*, Paris, France (guest professor, March-May 2018).  
*Max-Weber-Kolleg*, University of Erfurt, Germany (fellow, August 2014-July 2015).

### **MEMBERSHIPS TO ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES BY ELECTION**

- Archaeological Institute of America* (corresponding member since 2023).  
*Academia Europaea*, History and Archaeology Section (member since 2022).  
*Deutsches Archäologisches Institut* (DAI), Berlin, Germany (corresponding member since 2022).  
*The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters*, Copenhagen, Denmark (member since 2015).

### **CURATED EXHIBITIONS**

- Excavating Archives: Narratives from 20th-century Palmyra*. Museum of Ancient Art, Aarhus, Denmark, 2022.  
*The Road to Palmyra*. Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2019.  
*Palmyra: Loss and Remembrance*. The J. P. Getty Museum, Malibu, USA, 2018.  
*Gerasa/Jerash: A Decapolis City*. Museum of Ancient Art, Aarhus, Denmark, 2017.  
*Cult and religion in the Greco-Roman Near East*. Museum of Ancient Art, Aarhus, Denmark, 2011.

### **SELECTED EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES AND BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

- Since 2025- *The Archaeology and History of Western Asia*. (300 BCE – 750 CE) (Brepols); *Locally Crafted Empires* (Brepols).  
Since 2022- [Journal of Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology and Heritage Studies](#).  
Since 2021- [Urban Archaeological Past](#) (Cambridge University Press); [Journal of Field Archaeology](#); [Archive Archaeology](#) (Brepols).

Since 2020- [\*Religion and Urbanity\*](#); [\*Rivista di Studi Pompeiani\*](#); [\*Journal of Urban Archaeology\*](#); *Women of the Past* (Brepols).

Since 2019- [\*Ritual in the Ancient Mediterranean\*](#) (Routledge); [\*Studies in Palmyrene Archaeology and History\*](#).

Since 2017- [\*Impact of Empire\*](#) (Brill); [\*Mediterranean Studies in Antiquity\*](#) (Cambridge University Press).

Since 2016- [\*Studies in Classical Archaeology\*](#) (Brepols).

Since 2015- [\*Religion in the Roman Empire\*](#).

Since 2013- [\*Contextualizing the Sacred\*](#) (Brepols).

## **SELECTED RESEARCH DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH**

*Current World Archaeology* (regular features); *Les Visages Oubliés de Palmyre* (ARTE, 2021); *Open University Lecture Series Aarhus/Copenhagen* (since 2010); *Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek* (public lectures and seminars); *Museum of Ancient Art*, Aarhus University (public lectures/seminars/exhibitions); *Radio interviews, Podcasts* (e.g. BBC, Danish National Radio, NewBooksNetwork, French National Radio, Videnslyd); *ScienceClub Denmark* (nation-wide archaeology programme for elementary school pupils); *Urban Opinion* (podcast).